CENTRAL FAX CENTER APR 0 2 2007

Attorney Docket No. VPI/03-170 US

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No.:

10/821,793

Confirmation No.:

9337

Filing Date:

April 9, 2004

Examiner:

Joseph R. Kosack

Group Art Unit:

1626

Applicants:

Luc J. Farmer, et al.

For:

INHIBITORS OF SERINE PROTEASES, PARTICULARLY HCV NS3-

NS4A PROTEASE

April 2, 2007 Cambridge, Massachusetts

Mail Stop AF Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a)(1), applicants hereby petition the Director of the Patent and Trademark Office for a three-month extension of time to respond to a Final Office Action dated October 3, 2006. Applicants have authorized the Director to charge payment of the Extension fee. With the extension, a response is due on or before April 3, 2007.

Respectfully submitted,

04/03/2007 FMETEKI1 00000035 500725 10821793

1020.00 DA

02 FC:1253

Susan C. Kelly, Reg. No. 58,046 Agent for Applicants

Vertex Pharmaceuticals Incorporated

130 Waverly Street

Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139

Tel: (617) 444-7374 Fax: (617) 444-6483

Rev. 3/8/05